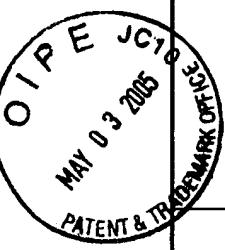


05-04-05

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

7

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|----------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 10/707,791 |
| Filing Date | January 13, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Bradley Q. Niemann |
| Art Unit | 3743 |
| Examiner Name | Patel, Mital B. |

Attorney Docket Number 713102.162

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication TC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below); return postcard |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application | Remarks: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|---|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin, LLP | | |
| Signature |  | | |
| Printed Name | Mark E. Stallion | | |
| Date | May 03, 2005 | Reg. No. | 46,132 |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.
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| Typed or printed name | Lisa Askew | Date | May 3, 2005 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



PATENT
713102,162

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Bradley Q. Niemann

: Examiner: Patel, Mital B.

Serial No.: 10/707,791

: Group Art Unit: 3743

Filed: January 13, 2004

: Attorney Docket No.: 713102.162

For: IMPROVED PROTECTIVE HOOD

: Customer No.: 027128

Last Office Action: March 21, 2005

: Confirmation No.: 1790

AMENDMENT B

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 21, 2005, please amend the above-identified application in accordance with the amendments and remarks as set forth herein.

INTRODUCTION:

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. Claims 9-15 are allowed and Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103. Claims 1-8 are amended herein.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this document.